

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 25-28 and 31-42 are pending, with claims 1, 2, 27, 28, 37 and 38 being independent. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended, claims 3 and 4 have been canceled, and claims 37-42 have been added. Claims 27, 28 and 31-36 have been withdrawn from consideration, leaving claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 25, 26 and 37-42 pending for prosecution with claims 1, 2, 37 and 38 being independent. Support for the amendments and the new claims may be found in the pending claims, canceled claims 3 and 4, and in the application at page 16, line 19 to page 17, line 1 and Figs. 5C and 6C. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 25 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Suzawa (JP 2001-035808) in view of Hibino (JP 2001-010685) and Ghandi (VLSI Fabrication Principles Silicon and Gallium Arsenide, pages 552-553); and claims 2, 4, 6 and 26 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Suzawa in view of Yudasaka (U.S. Patent No. 5,953,582), Hibino and Ghandi. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because none of the cited references describes or suggests an arrangement in which a gate electrode comprises a laminate of a fourth electrode comprising tungsten, a fifth electrode on the fourth electrode and comprising copper as its main component, and a sixth electrode on the fifth electrode and comprising titanium, where an interlayer insulating film on the gate electrode contacts the fifth electrode, as recited in claims 1 and 2.

For example, Hibino, which is cited as showing the fourth, fifth and sixth electrodes, shows a TiN film 15 on an aluminum film 14 on a Ti film 13. Suzawa shows an arrangement including a tungsten film 603a over a tungsten nitride film 603b. Yudasaka and Ghandi similarly fail to show this arrangement. Accordingly, since neither Suzawa, Hibino, nor the other references describe or suggest the recited arrangement of fourth, fifth and sixth electrodes, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 25 and 26 have been rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 3 and 7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,657,260 in view of Yudasaka and Ghandi. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because neither claims 1, 3 and 7 of the '260 patent, Yudasaka, nor Ghandi describes or suggests an arrangement in which a gate

electrode comprises a laminate of a fourth electrode comprising tungsten, a fifth electrode on the fourth electrode and comprising copper as its main component, and a sixth electrode on the fifth electrode and comprising titanium, where an interlayer insulating film on the gate electrode contacts the fifth electrode, as recited in claims 1 and 2.

Similarly to claims 1 and 2, each of independent claims 37 and 38 recites an arrangement in which a gate electrode comprises a laminate of a fourth electrode comprising one of tungsten, molybdenum and tantalum as its main component, a fifth electrode on the fourth electrode and comprising copper as its main component, and a sixth electrode on the fifth electrode and comprising titanium, where an interlayer insulating film on the gate electrode contacts the fifth electrode. Accordingly, these claims and their dependent claims are believed to be allowable at least for the reasons discussed above.

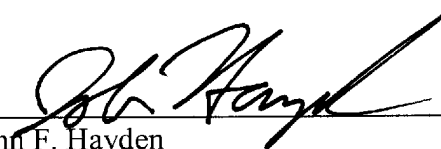
Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The fee in the amount of \$1190 for the request for continued examination (\$790) and two additional independent claims (\$400) is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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